of Defence forces visited and inspected the places and towns; and

(f) if so, the names of persons who conducted the inspection alongwith the date of inspection and places inspected by them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A statement is enclosed.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Statement

There are four Ordnance Factories located in Jabalpur. Out of these two factories and their estates namely Ordnance Factory, Khamaria and Gun Carriage Factory, Jabalpur suffered damages of approximately Rs. 94 Crores. About one hundred (100) persons of Ordnance Factory, Khamaria were injured in the earthquake of which seven (7) were injured seriously. In the two other Ordnance factories at Jabalpur viz. Vehicle Factory and Grey Iron Foundry, the effect of the earthquake was minor. Several offices of the Directorate General of Quality Assurance located at Jabalpur and Khamaria were damaged due to the earthquake. The expenditure on their repair is expected to be of the order of approximately Rs. 79.80 lakhs. Air armament Inspection Wing, Directorate General of Quality Assurance building and domestic camps at Khamaria, Jabalpur were also affected by the earthquake.

2. In the wake of the earthquake at Jabalpur, the Army's assistance was rendered to the civil authorities as under :

(a) one column was despatched to the site for spot assistance;

(b) on request from civil administration, 30 other Ranks donated blood at Medical College, Jabalpur;

(c) one surgical team was despatched to Victoria Hospital for assistance;

(d) Water was provided to Medical College through trucks, trolleys and water trucks;

(e) two medical teams were provided for medical aid, 10 columns were despatched which were tasked to provide medical aid, relief and salvage operations, food and water.

Wet Leasing of Aircraft

2957. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for Air India to go for Wet Leasing of Aircraft;

(b) the criteria adopted for selection of Carib Jet;

(c) whether any Economic Evaluation done in this regard;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the total loss suffered by Air-India by operating wet leased Aircraft of Carib Jet ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : (a) Air India had wet leased aircraft to provide growth and expend its market presence until the company was able to acquire its own aircraft.

(b) Based on the offers received in 1994 from owners/operators of the aircraft, Air India selected Caribjet which met airlines' wet lease requirement at that time.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The estimated loss is about 201.57 crores. Air India terminated wet-lease agreement with Caribjet w.e.f. 4.9.96 due to violation of Civil Aviation requirements in the operating of its aircraft.

Shukla Committee

2958. LT. GEN. PRAKASH MANI TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Shukla Committee set-up by the all India Council of Technical Education (AICTE) has recommended higher pay and better service conditions for the teachers of technical institutions;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) to (c) All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has not yet approached the Government of India in the matter of Shukla Committee Report.